Environment and Forests have communicated the recommendations of the study report to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for appropriate action.

Loss of production due to closures etc.

3365. DR. R. K. PODDAR; SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Wil] the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which ap peared in the Free Press Journal dated the 28th January, 1988 regarding force idleness of over 2. 5 laks workers in the first eight montlis of the last year as a result of closures, lock-outs, lay-offs and retrenchments;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) what are the details of the total loss of production as a result of these factors, separately, with corresponding increase in import bill; and

(d) what is the nexus between the increasing number of closures, lock-outs and lay-offs with the spurt in import culture since 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) According to information received from the Labour Bureau, 2, 53, 957 workers weie affected due to closures, lockouts, lay-offs and retrenchments during the period January—August, 1987. While closures, lay-offs and retrenahmen's have been due to reasons as financial stringency, shortage of raw-material, shortage of power and adverse market conditions, lockouts have generally been over issues relating to wages bonus, retrenchments and indiscipline. Closures, lockouts, layoffs and retrenchments are regulated under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Through the Industrial Dispute (Amendment) Acts of 1982 and 1984, Government have taken steps to further regulate closures, lay-offs and retrenchments. Penalities for illegal retrenchments, closures and lockouts are proposed to be made more stringent in the amendments proposed to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(c) and (d) The loss of production due to lock-outs during January—August, 1987 is provisionally estimated at Rs- 46. 25 crores. Information on production loss due to closures, lay-offs and retrenchments i_s not maintained. It is difficult to relate the loss of production due to closures, lockouts and lay-offs with the import bill, a large part of which goes to maintain high levels of investment, pro-,, duction and technological upgradation av^^ well as to meet the domestic demand for essential commodities. According to the latest provisional statistics available, imports during the first 9 month of the current financial year i. e. April—December, 1987 amounted to Rs. 16110. 78 crores compared to Rs. 14188. 98 crores in the corresponding period last year.

गंजाम जिले के बोंडा हुंडा ग्राम में भूख से हुयी मौतें

3366. **श्री रशीद मसूद :**
श्री अजीत सिंह :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को गंजाम जिले के बोंडा हुंडा ग्राम के आदिवासियों द्वारा जंगली जड़ें और पत्ते खाकर जीवन निर्वाह करने और अन्ततः मर जाने के सम्बन्ध में हाल ही में कुछ समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित समाचार की जानकारी है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है और इस क्षेत्र में लोगों को, विशेषकर आदिवासियों को भुखमरी से बचाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कारगर कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) : (क) जी, नहीं

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।